

Appl. No. 09/773,241
Docket No. 8409
Amdt. dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed on June 28, 2006
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 1, 5, 7, 14, and 16-19 are pending in the present application. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

Claims 2-4, 6, 8-13, 15, and 20 are cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of cancelled Claims 12 and 13. Support for the amendment is found at least in originally filed Claims 12 and 13.

It is believed these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter. Consequently, entry of these changes is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103(a) Over Robles et al.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 12, 14, and 16-19, have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,899,895 issued to Robles et al. The Office Action states that Claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As such, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the limitations in Claim 13 as well as intervening Claim 12. Therefore, Applicants contend that the claimed invention is unobvious and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection under §103(a). Early and favorable action in the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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